

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### REMEMBERING ROBERT SIMS

#### HON. JOHN S. TANNER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mr. TANNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of an American veteran, a tireless public servant, an outstanding citizen and a dear friend, Mr. Robert Bell Sims. Bob will be laid to rest next month at Arlington National Cemetery.

During Bob's long and distinguished career in the United States Navy, he served as a communications officer under two Secretaries of the Navy, then as the Deputy Chief of Information for the Department of the Navy. He also served on the National Security Council and the National Defense University.

Bob retired from the Navy in 1984 at the rank of Captain but did not end his service to our nation's defense. He served in the White House as Deputy Press Secretary for Foreign Affairs and was later nominated and confirmed to the post of Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs.

In 1987, Bob turned to his background in magazine and newspaper publishing, when he began fourteen years of service at the National Geographic Society. For thirty years, he was the owner and publisher of The Crockett Times. The work of his family and staff at the newspaper has long been important to Bob's hometown of Alamo, Tennessee, and indeed to all of us in Crockett County.

Bob is survived by his wife, Patricia, four children and seven grandchildren. My wife, Betty Ann, and I have long cherished our friendship with Bob and Pat Sims and are greatly saddened by Bob's passing. He will be missed. We know, however, that the legacy he leaves behind will never be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, please join with me in honoring the long service, dedication and friendship of Bob Sims.

### HONORING AUSTIN TOXEN

#### HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a young hero in my Fifth Congressional District of Florida. Throughout our current situation in Iraq and our continued War on Terror we have had occasion to honor many heroes. Today I want to take the time to honor a very special young man who, just like our troops overseas, acted bravely and selflessly to protect the safety of another person.

This summer while playing outside with friends, Austin Toxen, a fifth-grader at Forest Ridge Elementary School in Citrus County, noticed smoke coming from his neighbor's home. Acting quickly and keenly, Austin ran into his

own home, grabbed a fire extinguisher, asked his mother to call 911, and ran into his neighbor's home to help put out the blaze.

The fire, which started in the home's kitchen, would have almost certainly quickly spread throughout the entire structure had it not been for Austin's swift intervention. Austin was able to help contain the fire to the kitchen saving the home from burning entirely. The owner, Janeen Hall, has called Austin a hero and credits him with saving her home.

According to friends and family, Austin has remained very humble about his bravery. Though many have marveled at the fact that he had the composure to act so heroically, he says he just did the right thing.

We all know that Austin's actions truly are worthy of praise and so Mr. Speaker I ask you and my colleagues to join with me in honoring Austin Toxen today. He truly is a brave young man and a fine example of courage and selflessness.

### OCTOBER AS NATIONAL BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

#### HON. DOUG OSE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mr. OSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor October as National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Cancer is a growing and tragic epidemic that has undoubtedly touched loved ones, affecting mothers, sisters, daughters, as well as friends. The campaign emphasizes the importance of early detection of the disease through mammograms, clinical breast examination, as well as breast self-examination.

During 2003, over 211,000 new cases of breast cancer are expected to occur among women in the United States and breast cancer remains as the leading cause of cancer death in women in the United States. Alarmingly, every 2 hours, on average, a California woman dies of breast cancer.

I am honored to promote breast cancer awareness and research by urging my colleagues to reauthorize the Breast Cancer Research program for 2 more years. Millions of people have purchased the Breast Cancer Research stamp, a program that was first introduced in July 1998, generating over \$34.5 million for research and development.

The Breast Cancer Research stamp is especially important to me because my constituent, Dr. Ernie Bodai of Carmichael, CA, was the leading force behind the program. After 14 visits to Washington within 2 years, as well as spending \$100,000 of his personal savings, he succeeded, creating a leading for Breast Cancer fundraising. Dr. Bodai is the pioneer of the Breast Cancer stamp, Chief of General Surgery for Kaiser Permanente, and CEO of CureBreastCancer, Inc.

Driving through Sacramento, he can be easily detected by his car, which is adorned by its license plate—PL 105-41—the title of the pub-

lic law that made the breast cancer fundraising stamp official.

Mr. Speaker, as Members of Congress, let's do our part to protect our constituents, promote breast cancer research and education, and reauthorize the Breast Cancer Stamp program.

### HONORING FRANK BIERWILER OF SPRING HILL, FL

#### HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great public servant, a charitable giver, and a selfless hero in my Fifth Congressional District, Mr. Frank Bierwiler.

Frank Bierwiler first served his community in New York for many years as a State Police Officer. Then, after a multiple sclerosis diagnosis in 1974 forced him to retire from the force, Frank Bierwiler pledged to do something good with his life.

It was a few years later, Mr. Speaker, that he moved to Florida and started Daystar Hope Center, an organization giving food, clothing, and assistance with bills to central Floridians in need.

For nearly 20 years, the center has served as an example of the power and impact of benevolence and kindness. Its doors have welcomed thousands of Floridians in need and Mr. Bierwiler's perseverance and generosity have for so long ensured that those doors stay open.

Unfortunately, after 20 years of helping so many, the Daystar Hope Center is closing.

While it is unfortunate that the center is ceasing operations, many other charitable organizations, came into existence because of the success of the Daystar Hope Center. Frank's leadership fostered these other organizations and he always worked well with them.

I want to take this opportunity today to first commend Frank Bierwiler for his work in my district and to, second, draw attention to the extraordinary things that can happen when one determined, individual pledges himself to greatness.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and all of my colleagues in this body to join me in honoring Frank Bierwiler and offering our sincere admiration for his work, life, and accomplishments.

### HONORING THE BRAVE FIRE-FIGHTERS OF CALIFORNIA AND THE 3RD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

#### HON. DOUG OSE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mr. OSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my deep sympathy to the victims of the

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